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LICROSS

**AFTER FINAL RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Appl. Serial No. 09/335,863  
Customer No. 26021  
Reply to Final Office Action of August 12, 2003

PATENT  
39D-1884 (81841.0019)

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A clinical chemistry system comprising:
  - a storing station that receives and stores a plurality of primary sample tubes;
  - a sampling station including a sample probe that draws a volume of sample from a primary sample tube and transfers the volume to a secondary tube;
  - a carriage mechanism, comprising a gripper ~~that grips with a pair of opposed arms that close on one of the plurality of primary sample tubes, grips it, lifts it, and transports the primary sample tube from the storing station to the sampling station and returns the primary sample tube from the sampling station to the storing station;~~
  - a first and a second secondary tube transfer station, respectively, for coupling to first and second analyzers, the first and second sample tube transfer stations adapted to move the secondary sample tube from a continuous transport mechanism to be received by a corresponding one of the first and second analyzers; and
  - the continuous transport mechanism for moving filled secondary tubes to a selected one of the first and second secondary tube transfer stations.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
  - a sample identification reader for determining sample identification information from a primary sample tube; and